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Mammography Quality Assurance Program

Purpose: To define the quality assurance program structure and requirements.

Policy: A Mammography Quality Assurance Program will be established and maintained as required by Section 900.12(d) of the Mammography Quality Standards.

- A. The facility shall designate a lead interpreting physician.
- B. The medical director and section manager will assign quality control technologists.
- C. A medical physicist shall be provided to work with the physician and quality control technologists to establish and maintain the program.
- D. Each individual will be responsible for specific components of the Mammography Quality Assurance Program as defined.

Mammography Assurance Responsibility

The following individuals will be responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the Mammography Quality Assurance Program.

- A. Lead Interpreting Physician: Dr. Linda Nall M.D. has been designated lead interpreting physician and is responsible for overseeing mammography quality and ensuring compliance with the Mammography Quality Standards and the Rules of Good Practice.
- B. Quality Control Technologists: Betty Jackson, Betty Charchio and Paula Moses have been designated as quality control technologists and are responsible for all quality control tests and records maintenance not performed by the physicist or interpreting physician.
- C. Medical Physicist: will act as medical physicist and is responsible for all annual QC testing and for overseeing all mammography equipment.
- D. Mammography Quality Management: will be responsible for the following:
 - 1. Sensitivity/Specificity report required by MQSA for the radiologists
 - 2. Reject/Repeat for the technologists.
 - 3. Performance Improvement for the Breast Imaging section.
 - 4. Correlation of Mammography findings/pathologic findings annually.

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- 5. Documenting compliance with MQSA requirement of 30 day window for results to reach patient and referring physician.
- 6. Tumor Board attendance for follow-up of patients with biopsy being recommended by reading radiologist.

Equipment Quality Control

Equipment quality control tests will be performed as required by Section 900.12 (e) of the Mammography Quality Standards. Quality control tests and control parameters will be established and performed according to the Mammography Quality Control Manual of the American College of Radiology. Tests will be performed at the following intervals:

- A. Daily:
 - 1. Laser Printer Quality Control
- B. Weekly:
 - 1. Image Quality Evaluation
 - 2. View boxes and viewing conditions
- C. Monthly

Visual checklist

- D. Quarterly:
 - 1. Repeat Analysis
- E. Semiannual:
 - 1. Compression
- F. Annual:
 - 1. Automatic Exposure Control
 - 2. KVp Accuracy
 - 3. Focal Spot size or resolution
 - 4. Half Value Layer
 - 5. AEC Reproducibility/Breast entrance exposure
 - 6. Average Glandular Tissue Dose
 - 7. X-ray Field/Light Field/Image Receptor Compression Paddle Alignment
 - 8. System Artifacts

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- 9. Radiation Output
- 10. Decompression

Quality control Test Results

Mammography services cannot be performed if the following QC tests fall outside of control limits:

- A. Phantom Image Test
- B. Compression Test
- C. Average glandular dose

All other QC test require that corrective action be taken within 30 days as defined in Section 900.12 (e)(8)(ii)(A) of the Mammography Quality Standards.